DANBY AREA NEWS

JENNINGS POND UPDATE

Submitted by Amy Cusimano, Jennings Pond Director

While the country, including Tompkins County, broke records with the July heat wave, Jennings Pond was breaking its attendance records. There were a whopping 546 swimmers during the month of July. Adding in the families that spent time picnicking, attendance was close to 1000 visitors. August followed suit.

Did you know that the picnic area was once much larger? Exploring the park area, we have discovered pit stands in an area that is now overgrown. I plan to

work with the NYS Parks Department to clear that area and open it back up for use. This will be an exciting project.

I am also looking for volunteers to do heavy equipment dredging of the swimming pond. This project will take place during the early Spring of 2007. Equipment is needed in addition to the helping hands! If you can help, please contact me at 607.272.4634 or [amymc@twcny.rr.com].

Although Jennings Pond is a part of the New York State Park system, the state does not provide funding. The Town of Danby bears the cost and operates the park.

Jennings Pond will close for the season on Labor Day, September 4th. Thanks for a great season. See you next year!

Danby Community Library

Submitted by Patti Meyers

In my younger and more vulnerable years my father gave me some advice that I've been turning over in my mind ever since.

"Whenever you feel like criticizing anyone," he told me, "just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had."

— from The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

What have you been reading this summer? I read A Million Little Pieces, Blue Shoes and Happiness, and

just finished *Wicked*. The Book Discussion Group will meet on Tuesday, September 26th to discuss summer readings and decide on the future of the group.

Don't forget to pick up a copy of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*—now available at Danby Community Library—for the Community Read!

The Danby Parade and Fun Days was a fun event to participate in this summer. Congratulations to Summer Youth Program readers who completed their quest and won a prize.

Thank you to all the volunteers who kept our library running this summer. Hope to see some new faces in the Fall!

Look for new adult fiction selections in September, along with Young Adult Fiction, Biographies and Videos and Audiobooks.

"And there the wicked old Witch stayed for a good long time." "And did she ever come out?" "Not yet."

—from Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West by Gregory Maguire



Aaron Laurenson practices Catch and Release at Jennings Pond.

- Photo by Ted Crane

September 2006

Layout: Ted Crane

Database: Colleen Barnes

Mailing: Beatrice Hogben,

Patty VanDeBogart, Lynne

Deuschle, Colleen Barnes

To contribute:

Danby Area News

PO Box 6886

Ithaca, NY 14851-6886

Phone: 607.273.8678

Email: [danbynews@tedcrane.com]

Text submissions:

Send text in body of Email

(not as an attachment); or

mail typewritten copy, double-

spaced on white paper. Short

handwritten submissions ac-

cepted; please write legibly.

Graphics: JPEG preferred. TIFF, GIF, or PNG accepted but discouraged. Check with editor before sending hardcopy graphics.

Deadline is the 15th of the month. Materials may be accepted later if time allows. Submissions should generally not exceed one page. We cannot print political material or letters of opinion.

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The "Doggie B & B" • 168 West Miller Road • 273.3251

[www.highlandfarms.baka.com]

Retailer for Hill's Science Diet dog and cat food, plus natural pet treats and Greenies. Save a trip into town.

FRIENDS:

THE YOGA CORNER

Community Corners, 903 Hanshaw Road • 257.3677 • [www.theyogacorner.com] Offering hatha yoga classes in the Svaroopa style for beginners, seniors, pregnancy, and more. Great for back care, migraines, and management of middle age aches and pains. Call Ann Kinner Johnson, Danby resident since 1976.

GRANT'S PLANTS

97 Michigan Hollow Road • 272.7335 • [grantsplants@juno.com] Greenhouse opens Memorial Day Weekend (May 27 & 28). Open Saturdays and Sundays, 9am-5pm, other times by appointment.

SIEGARD'S DAY CARE

355 South Danby Road; 1.5 miles off Rt. 96B • 273.2003 NYS Certified—15 years. Full/Part Time & After School, Located in the Spencer-VanEtten school district.

JESSICA LOVE'S FAMILY DAYCARE

1560 Danby Road • 256.8582

NYS Certified since 1997. Accepting ages 2 & up Full/Part Time & After School • Food Program offered

Danby Town History

Submitted by Joan Grant, Town Historian

Earlier this summer, Peter Fraissinet of West Danby sent me two 19th century Danby letters that he wanted to share.

I found them to be very interesting and I hope you will also. This month, I'm including Peter's cover letter±—with a fascinating historical twist—and the first letter, from 1816. The misspelled words and grammatical errors are as written. The second letter will appear in the October Danby Area News.

Peter wrote

out a Summer".

Here are the two letters I spoke to you about. I bought them from a dealer in Connecticut earlier this year, pure serendipity that I found them. The 1816 letter is from Elbert Curtis, the 1824 from Betsy Curtis. Young Betsy's letter includes many details of everyday life.

letter includes many details of everyday life.

The 1816 letter mentions the weather. It was written at the end of the winter following the eruption of the great Tambora volcano in in Indonesia, and just before the summer of 1816, now known as "The Year With-

I had always wondered what the winter of 1816 was like hereabouts, and this letter answers that question: frigid and dry. "We have not had any sleighing this winter but good wagoning and cold weather severe as I ever experienced part of the time."

THE ELBERT CURTIS LETTER

Addressed to: Mr. Levi Curtis, Stratford, Con. Danby, March 25th 1816 Dear Sister,

I received your letter with pleasure and happy to think I had some boddy that thought of me. I had not heard from there since last fall only as I heard of the loss of R-bin's children, which I suppose he felt if not I did for him.---

I am sorry that Stephen is so attached to the school and Ma-a that he could not spend time to write a few lines to me: but I hope you do not wait for his motion. I was glad to hear that he enjoyed himself in his situation which I did not expect but sufficient reason: being part of his journey there.

I have but a few lines to write only to give you information of the death of Old Mr. Abner Beers which was about the commencement of the year. He died with old age and pretty sudden. His widow now living with Nathan and is well.

Uncle Dr. has been to New York this winter and purchased a new stock of goods and cheap- they have not

> all of them got in yet but expect them in tomorrow or next day. We have not had any sleighing this winter but good wagoning and cold weather severe as I ever experienced part of the time.

> We have traded largely this winter considering the scarcity of money [?] was never been so great before- there has but little been done with plaister this season which has stopt the circulation of money. We have not

bought any plaister but am a getting some through Mr. C. Pumpelly which we do by paying in goods and that turns into money in the same amount.

Nathan Beers's wife is a different woman since I have returned: whether it is because she can't get me away or quit the Blue Presbyterians I cannot tell: The head Blue Belly is married to an old maid a fit character for him the same profession. I have not any thing more but to inform you that I am well and all the family as usual. I have had a very bad cold, but got well. All old inhabitants of Stratford are well that reside here. Give my love to all. Father and mother and all Brothers and sistersespecially Charles B. and all relations and neighbors. Sally B./Remember.

Your true Brother Elbert Curtis.

P.S. Write soon. I have seen Wm. Peet that married Joseph Burris's daughter- he lives twenty miles from here and talks as if doing well. Tell Uncle Joseph. E.C.

P.S. Not any boddy married yet that come from Stratford nor any prospects at present only myself---I calculate to be some time or other---E.C.

Planning & Town Boards

Submitted by Carol Sczepanski, Town Clerk

PLANNING BOARD VACANCY FILLED

At a special Meeting of the Town Board held on August 7, 2006 the Town Board appointed Edward (Ted) Melchen to the Planning Board to fill a vacancy that expires December 31, 2008.

PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARINGS ON SEP.21

- 1. Sandra Kenne, Owner Proposed Subdivision of Tax Parcel No. 6.-1-26.2, 16.2 acres total, located on the northwest corner of the intersection of East Miller Road and Coddington Road, into four(4) lots of two(2) to 5.136 acres each.
- 2. Donald and Nancy Wright, Owners Request for Special Permit to install a temporary site-built dwelling for a family member needing care, at 18 Station Road, West Danby on Tax Parcel No. 17.-1-19. The proposed installation would also be subject to application to the Board of Zoning Appeals for variance.
- 3. White Hawk Community (an ecological neighborhood). Public Hearing is to consider a recommendation to the Town Board with respect to the proposed White Hawk Community Planned Development Zone proposed to be located on Tax Parcels 7.-1-68 and 7.-1-69.1 on the west side of Danby Road between Gunderman and West Miller Roads. As proposed there would be thirty (30) clustered dwelling units on a 12-acre portion of the 118 acre site. Henry Peterson, Applicant and Owner.

Draft Right to Farm Law

The Planning Board reviewed and amended a Proposed "Right to Farm Law". The Planning Board unanimously approved the draft local law and made a recommendation to the Town Board that they consider adoption of the proposed local law with their suggested amendments.

Town Board Agenda Meting

The Town Board September Agenda Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 6: 30pm. Persons/residents wishing to be placed on the September 11th Board Meeting Agenda should come to the meeting and make a formal request to the Town Board.

SHORTER NOTICES

• "Pandemic Influenza: A Preparedness Discussion" will be presented by Carol Griep, the Tompkins County Health Department's Bioterrorism Preparedness Coordinator, on Wednesday, Sep.20, 12:30–1:30pm at a public meeting sponsored by the Health Planning Council of Tompkins County.

"The global as well as the local health communities have been and continue to monitor the threat of the H5N1 avian influenza hitting upon American soil," says Ms. Griep. She will describe the Department's pandemic planning, the history of Influenza, and various preparedness efforts. Check out the Health Department web site [www.tompkins-co.org/health/].

The event, open to all, is in the Rice Conference Room of the Biggs Building, 401 Dates Drive, Ithaca. Call Betty Falcáo, 607.273.8686 for more details.

• Adopt/Foster Info Meeting for anyone who may be considering becoming a foster parent or adoptive parent and wants more information, Tompkins County Department of Social Services will hold informational meetings at the Human Services Building, Room 142, 320 West State Street in Ithaca on Thursday, September 14, 2006, Noon–1 pm. Please call 274.5266 for more information.

—continued on page 5

Town Hours

TOWN CLERK

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559 Tue–Fri, 9am–4pm; Sat, 9am–Noon

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

93 Hornbrook Road • Phone: 272.9169 Mon–Fri, 6am–2:30pm

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE

Phone: 277.0799 • Fax: 277.0559

Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm or by appointment

TOWN COURT:

Phone: 277.4788 • Fax: 277.0559

Tue, 7pm

Danby Community Library

Tue & Thu 3:30–5:30pm, Sat 9:30am–2:30pm All offices at Danby Town Hall except where noted.

Danby Senior Citizens

Submitted by Sharon Boda

The Danby Senior Citizens will resume meeting on Thursday, September 7, at 6 pm at the Danby Federated Church. After a dish to pass dinner we will be entertained by ZelaZola, a father and son duo playing gypsy jazz on mandolin and guitar. All seniors are welcome to share the fellowship.

Shorter Notices, continued from page 4

Also, the "Group Preparation & Selection II-Model Approach To Partnerships In Parenting" (GPS II-MAPP) classes will begin September 12, 2006. This is the beginning of a 33-hour, 11-week program to prepare you to foster or adopt and enable you and this agency to determine what kinds of placements are best suited to your family's strengths and needs.

• Coping With the Loss of Your Pet. People who have experienced the loss of a pet are invited to come and share their stories through writing and reading on Tuesday, Sep.26 from 6:30-8:30pm. The session, sponsored by the Colonial Veterinary Hospital, is designed to encourage participants to pay tribute to their pets and provide support to each other. The group meets the 4th Tuesday of every month.

The canine or feline with whom we've had a special relationship and shared our home is often a cherished member of the family. When that companion animal dies, the grief we feel may be difficult to handle. One way to cope is by being with others who are also grieving a similar loss. Another is by writing our stories and then reading them out loud. The session will be led by Jane Baker Segelken, a writer, health advocate, and animal lover.

The meeting is free, but registration is required. Call the Colonial Veterinary Hospital, 607.257.3650, for information, location, and registration.

• The Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service Crisisline provides counseling to those in distress 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Consider becoming a Crisisline Volunteer. Fall training sessions begin on September 25th. For more information about becoming a counselor, or to receive an application, please contact the SPCS at 607.272.1505

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS!

Submitted by Carol Sczepanski, Town Clerk

Every dog over the age of four months owned or harbored in New York State for longer than 30 days must be licensed in the town where they are harbored and a renewal licence purchased each year. A valid rabies certificate is required for registration.

The Town of Danby has a local law regulating the activities of dogs. The law to promotes the community's health, safety, and welfare and protects the property of residents by regulating and controlling activities of dogs within the Town of Danby. The law also specifies enforcement measures.

A resident shall be in violation of this law if a dog:

- 1. Is not restrained by an adequate collar and leash when not on the property of the owner or any other person harboring or having custody or control of the dog;
- 2. Engages in habitual or continued barking, howling or whining so as to cause a person's rest to be broken, sleep interrupted or reasonable use or enjoyment of his home or property;
- 3. Causes damage or destruction to property, or defecates, urinates, or otherwise commits a nuisance other than on the premises of the person owning or harboring such dog.

The entire Danby Dog Law is too lengthy to publish in the Danby News but residents may pick up a copy at the Town Clerk's Office during regular office hours. Requests should be made to the Town Clerk.

- or [www.suicidepreventionandcrisisservice.org] or [spcscrisisline@verizon.net].
- Bereaved Parents Meeting. A support group for bereaved parents will meet on Tuesday, September 12, from 5:30-7pm at Hospicare on East King Road in Ithaca. This is a peer-run group serving parents or grandparents who have lost a child or grandchild. For more information about the group, please contact Carlo Troise at 255.9470.
- Grandparents and others raising grandchildren. The Tompkins County Office for the Aging has two free guides. If you're interested, pick up the 32-page resource guide, *Relatives as Parents*, and the DVD, *Lean on Me*. For more info, call the Office at 607.274.5482. \$

DANBY TOWN TALK

Submitted by Gay Huddle, Ithaca Journal Correspondent

It seems to me that the Summer of 2006 has flown by so fast. We started out with our annual long weekend in Wildwood, New Jersey. We enjoyed the sun and the sand, and watching the moon cast long shadows over the chilly waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

When we got home, Garry worked on painting our house green. The color was not what I was actually looking for, but as the paint went on it grew on me, until I found that I really liked it after all, and besides, that patient little girl working behind the counter at Home Depot would probably run in the other direction if she saw me coming again with those color samples!

Next up was a weekend in Canada. Our friends, Rocky and Cherry Wojtanik from Newfield, have a summer cottage on what looks to me like a bigger version of Golden Pond! We swam off the boat, snoozed in the hammock, ate ice cream, and drove to the nearby casino, where, as usual for us, we won nothing (but had a great time anyway!).

The rest of July was so hot that we spent most of our free time in the pool at Jeff and Sherry's house. Maddi learned the doggie paddle, Marci perfected her cannon-ball, and I got as tanned as I have ever been. The pool

water was warm enough even for Garry, who usually much prefers hot-tub water!

On August 5 we celebrated our 40th anniversary and Garry's 60th birthday (*yikes* to both those milestones!) with a picnic hosted by our kids. It was the most wonderful day, made even more special when Garry surprised me with his secret, the renewal of our vows (and I surprised him with my secret, which was a new wedding band that I had bought for him last February!).

And now, the summer seems to be already waning. The days and nights are much cooler and when our cat, Darla, comes inside to sleep on our bed, I know that Fall is creeping closer. The cooler nights have prompted bonfires, s'mores, and real air coming through the windows at night!

I am a "falling leaves drift by my window" kind of girl. I will, however, have to admit, that I am beginning to realize more and more that the changing seasons, beautiful as they are, are bringing added years to myself and everyone I love.

PS: The Danby Town Talk column appears in the Ithaca Journal every other Thursday. Please share some of your stories with me as this column is your column, for Danby and about Danby! Contact me at 607.273.6530, at 65 Gunderman Road, or via Email at [gayhuddle@hotmail.com].

The Danby Community Council provides schattend special camps/programs (sports, comp		* *
Youth's Name		_
Date of BirthTelephone	& Email	_
Address		_
Parent/Guardian's Name		
Name of camp/program		Please send the application, with proof of enrollment in
Address of camp/program		program and (if applicable) payment of deposit, to:
Is the youth currently eligible for a free or reduced cost lunch program?		Danby Community Council c/o Carol Bushberg 908 Steam Mill Road Ithaca, NY 14850
I verify that the information provided on this application is accurate.		
Signature of Parent/Guardian	Date	— Ouestions? Call 273.3400!

Danby Community Council Scholarship Application

Community Council Youth Programs Fall 2006

It's not too late to sign up! Free programs!

Programs are for youth who live in or near Danby; the age range is listed for each program. All programs are free. Look for brochures and registration forms in the Danby Store, at the Town Hall, and on the web: [http://www.cce.cornell.edu/tompkins/rys/local.htm]

To have a brochure mailed or faxed to you, please contact Tom Archibald, 607.272.2292 x222, or [tga4@cornell.edu]. Remember, these programs fill up, so register early.

I'd like to thank all of the young people who participated in the Youth Programs programs this summer. You all had lots of fun, learned a lot, and

grew a lot. Special thanks go out to the friends who helped make this year's Fun Day a big success: Sam Stromswold, Anna Marcus-Hocht, Zac Holbrook, Sylvie Finn, Alana Stevenson, Honor Meyerhoff, Saia Meyerhoff, and Astreeian Weigand. Thank you all so much.

Primitive Pursuits—Grades 4-8

Danby Federated Church

Mondays, September 18–December 11 (3:30–6:30pm)

Whether you're an old Primitive Pursuits pro or you're just hearing of it for the first time, come join us to learn ancestral living skills such as friction fires, shelter building, native crafts, nature awareness, tracking, and more! This is a very valuable environmental education program connects participants to their local environ-

Youth Scholarships!

Submitted by Carol Bushberg

The Community Council Scholarship Fund still has funds to assist families with the costs of youth needs and programming, all year round!

A typical grant is around 30 percent of the cost of the program and funds are paid directly to the provider. Programs might include: camps, afterschool programs (including tutoring, dance, horseback riding, school clubs), tutors and coaches, equipment suppliers, you name it! Fill out the application, on page 6!

ment through the study of earth-living skills and nature awareness. Boynton Middle School students: a school bus can take you directly from school to the program.

Picture Perfect-Grades 4-8

Boynton Middle School

Fridays, September 22–October 27 (2:30–5pm)

Do you like photography? If you think taking pictures is fun, then check out this program: we'll meet professional photographers, do some Polaroid art, and dive into the digital world as we explore different ways to take pictures. Short field trips and walks will bring us Danby Eyer to some of Ithaca's beautiful natural areas to practice nature photography. Taking it even further,

we'll make photo collages and find ways to make your pix look picture perfect so we can frame them and put them on display. Elementary school students and homeschoolers: come meet us at Boynton; everybody is welcome!

Cultural Cooking-Grades 5-8

Danby Federated Church Alternate Saturdays,

September 23–December 16 (10am-1pm)

Come for a few days this summer to learn recipes from around the world. Be prepared to learn plenty of new cooking techniques and develop a taste for new things! You'll help decide what countries you want to explore, and then get to eat and enjoy what we make! We will also take time to listen to music, look at pictures, and even meet people from other cultures.

Animal Explorers-Grades 4-8

Boynton Middle School

Fridays, November 3–December 8 (2:30–5pm)

Let's explore the animal kingdom together. We'll go on field trips and talk with experts who work with animals to see and learn about cool new things, and just to pet some cute animals, too. From small to big, furry to spiky, we'll get to see a lot of different types of animals. So whether you dream about being a veterinarian or marine biologist when you grow up, or whether you just like animals, Animal Explorers is the program for you.

For more information, or to share your ideas about potential youth programs, feel free to call. The more the merrier, so please don't hesitate to come and try these wonderful free programs. Homeschoolers are more than welcome. Youth who don't go to Boynton are also more than welcome to come to the program that meets there. Wherever you are, in or near Danby, just come! See you soon!!



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Danby Area News: Event Calendar

Aug 27 • Sun

3pm Jim Hatch's Field, Brown & Short, West Danby West Danby Picnic!

Sep 6 • Wed

6:30pm 🔁 Town Hall

Town Board Agenda Meeting

Sep 7 • Thu

6pm 🚇 Danby Federated Church

Danby Senior Citizens Dish-to-pass Supper, followed by Gypsy Jazz Guitar music from *Zola*, *Zola*

7pm 🕰 Town Hall

Danby Community Council Meeting

Sep 11 • Mon

6:30pm @ Town Hall

Town Board Meeting

Sep 12 • Tue

9:30–11:30am 🙉 Market

Meet Your Representatives—County Rep Frank Proto and Town Supervisor Ric Dietrich

and Iown Supervisor

Sep 13 • Wed

7pm 🕰 Town Hall

Comprehensive Plan Task Force meeting

Sep 21 • Thu

7pm @ Town Hall

Planning Board

Oct 5 • Thu

7pm 🙀 Town Hall

Danby Community Council Meeting

Oct 8 • Sun

3pm 🕰 Town Hall

Concert: Susan Waterbury, violin

Did you know you can find the Danby News on the web? [http://danbynews.tedcrane.com/]

ONGOING

Danby Farmer's Market Fire Hall Thursdays, 3–6pm.

Jennings Pond Swimming Hours 🚇 Jennings Pond

Sunday-Thursday, Noon-7pm Friday and Saturday, Noon-8pm.

Seniors Strength Training Group Federated Church Mondays, 9am.

West Danby Volunteer Fire Company WD Fire Hall 2nd Monday, 7pm.

Danby Fire Company Fire Hall

Mondays, 7pm; monthly mtg 2nd Monday, 7:30pm.

Bereaved Parents Meeting A Hospicare, East King Road 2nd Tuesday, 5:30–7pm

Adopt/Foster Care Meeting 320 W.State Street, Rm.142 2nd Thursday, Noon–1pm

Danby Food Pantry Federated Church 2nd Thursday, 6–8pm, 3rd Friday, 4–6pm.

Danby Community Library Reading Group (4th Tuesdays, 7pm.

Danby Quilters Group ♥ 273.2950 Fridays, 9–11am.

WHERE THINGS HAPPEN

- Danby Town Hall 1830 Danby Road
- Danby Community Library 1830 Danby Road
- Danby Market 1774 Danby Road
- Danby Fire Hall 1780 Danby Road
- West Danby Fire Hall Sylvan Lane, off Rt.34/96
- Danby Federated Church 1859 Danby Road
- American Legion Hall 1231 Danby Road